

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA  
Norfolk Division**

DOUGLAS I. HORNSBY, Administrator  
of the Estate of CYNTHIA GARY,

Plaintiff,

v.

Civil Action No. 2:22-cv-427

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, et al.,


Defendants.

**RECUSAL ORDER**

The undersigned conducted a settlement conference in this case on January 31, 2025. During the course of this conference, the undersigned participated in *ex parte* discussions with the parties and expressed opinions on legal and factual issues. Because of the nature of these discussions, the undersigned cannot preside over any contested issue in this case. Therefore, the Clerk is **DIRECTED** to reassign this case to an alternate United States Magistrate Judge. The parties, however, may request the undersigned to assist them in resolving future settlement issues.

The Clerk is further **DIRECTED** to forward a copy of this Order to all counsel of record and the Courtroom Deputy for the Honorable Rebecca Beach Smith.

It is so **ORDERED**.

  
Lawrence R. Leonard  
United States Magistrate Judge

Norfolk, Virginia  
January 31, 2025